

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 MBFR-04 MC-02 DRC-01 /157 W

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R 111245Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1900

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CINCPAC/POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XB

SUBJ: ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY: PRAVDA AIRS PROS AND CONS.

REF: MOSCOW 10142

1. PRAVDA OBSERVER VIKTOR MAYEVSKIY JOINS CHORUS OF SOVIET
COMMENTATORS CALLING FOR SYSTEM OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY IN
ASIA IN PROMINENT ARTICLE SEPTEMBER 11. MAYEVSKIY PRESENTS
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REBUTTALS TO THREE MAIN ARGUMENTS ADVANCED BY SKEPTICS AND

OPPONENTS OF CONCEPT.

2. TO THOSE WHO FEEL IDEA IS TOO VAGUE AND ASK FOR MORE DETAILS, MAYEVSKIY OFFERS STANDARD LIST OF PRINCIPLES DERIVED FROM BANDUNG RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS (SEE REFTEL). HE MAKES CLEAR THAT SECURITY SYSTEM WOULD NOT BE AIMED AGAINST ANY COUNTRY, WOULD BE OPEN TO ALL "WITHOUT EXCEPTION" AND WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH -- INDEED, FACILITATED BY --BILATERAL AND REGIONAL AGREEMENTS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE CLOSER COOPERATION.

3. MAYEVSKIY DEALS WITHCHINA ASPECT HEAD-ON, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT SOME ASIAN STATES WISH TO AVOID BEING DRAGGED INTO SINO-SOVIET FEUD. HE MAKES USUAL POINTS THATCHINESE ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE AND THAT THEY ONCE FAVORED THE CONCEPT THEMSELVES. HE ADDS A NEW TWIST BY ASSERTING THAT DISCUSSION OF SYSTEM OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY WOULD BE GOOD FOR SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS AND WOULD FACILITATE IMPROVEMENTS BASED ON LONG-STANDING SOVIET DESIRE TO NORMALIZE STATE RELATIONS WITH PRC. AT SAME TIME, HE ARGUES THAT CHINESE OPPOSITION TO COLLECTIVE SECURITY REFLECTS DESIRE TO MAINTAIN TENSION IN ASIA FOR PRC'S OWN HEGEMONISTIC PURPOSES.

4. FINALLY, MAYEVSKIY NOTES DOUBTS OF THOSE WHO FEEL THAT SITUATION IN ASIA IS DIFFERENT FROM EUROPE, THAT CONDITIONS NOT YET RIPE FOR CONCERTED APPROACH TO DETENTE. HE ACKNOWLEDGES THE DIFFERENCES, BUT CLAIMS THIS INCREASES NEED TO OVERCOME INSTABILITY THROUGH COMMON EFFORTS.

5. COMMENT: MAYEVSKIY PIECE SHOWS SOVIETS ARE LISTENING TO DOUBTERS AND ARE SEEKING TO ALLAY THEIR CONCERNS THIS SUGGESTS MOSCOW WILL PERSIST WITH ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY CAMPAIGN, WHICH IS NOW MOVING UNDER FULL HEAD OF STEAM.
DUBS

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